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Applicants elect to prosecute in this application the subject matter of Group II, claims 2-12 drawn to a nucleic acid molecule, vectors, host cells and method of expression. This response is made without traverse and without prejudice to Applicants' right to file and prosecute claims in a divisional application directed to the remaining Group I.

AUTHORIZATION

No additional fee is believed to be necessary. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3479-4000US1.

If any questions or issues remain or if the Examiner has any comments or suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: August 16, 2002

By: 

Kenneth H. Sonnenfeld

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